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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/891,284	06/27/2001	Kyoung Sub Kim	8733.438.00	1850

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EXAMINER

WARREN, MATTHEW E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2815

DATE MAILED: 10/09/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/891,284

Applicant(s)

KIM ET AL.

Examiner

Matthew E. Warren

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2815

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 10 objected to because of the following informalities: In line 5, the phrase "a resin between around . . ." contains errors. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Applicant's Prior Art Figure 3 (APAF) in view of Suzuki et al. (US 5,637,007).

In re independent claims 1, 3, 5, 8, and 10 the APAF (fig. 3) shows a lamp apparatus for a liquid crystal display comprising a lamp (2) for generating light, a wire (3) for supplying external electric power to the lamp, a soldering (4) for connecting the lamp to the wire, a holder (5) for enclosing the soldering, and a lamp housing (1) for enclosing the holder and the lamp. The APAF shows all of the elements of the claims except the resin in the holder between the soldering and the holder. Suzuki et al. shows (fig. 1) a connector structure in which a housing (2) including wires (3) are connected to a terminal (4) by solder (col. 3, lines 62-67). A resin (10) fills a cavity (5) to provide a seal and fix the wires to their terminals (col. 4, lines 18-28). Therefore it would have

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been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the lamp housing of the APAF 3 by inserting resin into the holder portion and enclose the wire at the end of the housing as taught by Suzuki to seal the cavity and fix wires to their terminals.

In re claims 4 and 9, the APAF 1 shows the lamp apparatus is installed at each side of the liquid crystal display case.

In re claims 6 , 11, and 12, the APAF 3 shows a soldering (4) electrically connecting the lamp to the wire and a holder (5) passing through the lamp housing to enclose the lamp, wire and the soldering.

Claims 2, 7, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Prior Art Figure 3 (APAF) in view of Suzuki et al. (US 5,637,007) as applied to claims 1, 5, and 10 above, and further in view of Saito (JP 4-46314).

In re claims, 2, 7, and 13, the APAF in view of Suzuki et al. shows all of the elements of the claims except the specific material of the resin. Saito discloses (abstract and fig. 4) an LCD element having a resin material of epoxy (12) at an end of device to form a reliable seal without bubbles or moisture. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the resin of the APAF and Suzuki by using specific resins such as epoxy at taught by Saito to form a reliable seal.

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Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Mathew et al. (US 6,356,334 B1) and Momose (US 6,597,416 B1) also disclose LCD's having resin portions.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew E. Warren whose telephone number is (703) 305-0760. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs, and alternating Fri, 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eddie Lee can be reached on (703) 308-1690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Matthew E. Warren


September 30, 2003